MCKOWNVILLE CHURCH NEWS

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Spirit Filled

Volume 9 No. 4

Articles for the May Newsletter are due around April 15th.

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Newcomers and Visitors: WELCOME!

Look inside for interesting articles, church news and updates, youth events, mission opportunities, fun activities and more!



https://www.facebook.com/McKownvilleChurch/

April, 2018



A couple of weeks ago, we had Alignment Workshop which was led by Rev. Aaron Bowen, director of the Vital Ministry of our Conference.

We mostly heard of and discussed the mission, vision, and values of our church. This kind of conversation was not new to many of us, but it was a timely opportunity to align or realign our thoughts on the direction of our church's ministries and activities. It helped us take stock of our reality and rethink who we are and what we do as a church for Christ. It was a beginning for further conversations and actions to make our church faithful to the calling of Christ for the kingdom of God.

Who we are

Our Mission statement is about who we are. Both as a church and as Christians we are too keenly aware of who we are, because it is crucial in living out the calling of God. It is not a mere option to grapple with our reality, but our effort to be a church true to the purpose of being faithful to God in Christ Jesus.

But this understanding can be forgotten or misunderstood if our understanding of who we are is not focused and clear. We have a tendency to forget unless we are taught and reminded regularly.

The purpose of the church is clearly mentioned in Jesus' last words spoken to his disciples, and it was "making disciples" of Jesus Christ to the ends of earth (Matthew 28:19-20) and "loving one another as we loves God (Matthew 22:32). And words on the mission statement can be different, but the core of mission of the Christian church cannot be changed or compromised according to the change of the time. Mission is like a compass for a ship, North Star at night.

Where we go

Our Vision is about where we as a church need to go. The vision of a church is closely connected with our self-awareness of who we are. An accurate picture of our current reality is critical for the success of future mission and ministry. Unlike the mission, the vision can be changed according to the context of a church. Vision is application of mission. It is a picture of the future.

We need to hold fast onto the direction that Jesus gave us. We live in the vision, and without vision, we can go astray as seen in history. However, simply having a mission and vision statement doesn't make us become faithful and fruitful. Only when we properly and effectively apply mission and vision to the ministry and activity that we have, and we will have, we will bear abundant fruits.

Certainly, we made a meaningful step to move forward by having this meaningful workshop. I believe God has a great plan and leads us in the right direction, because God wants to be glorified by us. Thanks to be God.

Charlie Yang



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The Cross Walk

"Be sure to take the crosswalk." Parents will say that to their children, and to each other. *"Don't cross in the middle of the street, be safe and take the crosswalk."* Crosswalks are designed for us to safely get from one side of the street to the other. Usually they are clearly marked, and there's a common understanding that if you're in the crosswalk, you're taking the right path. Traffic lights will tell you when you can go, and some states make it clear that traffic must yield to the pedestrian. It's clear, taking the crosswalk is the right way to go!

Let's think about that for just a moment... A path dedicated to safely get us to our destination. *Wouldn't it be great to always have a path like that? Wherever we may go? Maybe we do...*

Let's consider, that we are celebrating Jesus' resurrection into Heaven. But what did it take for Him to get there?? We all know Jesus endured the most painful walk and the most painful death three days before he rejoined His Father in Heaven. Why did He do this? We know the answer to that question also. Jesus died a painful death to save us from our sins. It's that simple, and it's that amazing. He took the walk to His death willingly, knowing it was to free each of us from our sins, and offer us eternal life.

Jesus' walk to the Cross was like no other. We have the opportunity to pray and take that walk with Jesus, to the Cross. We remember what He did for us, and the significance of that One Walk that changed the course of our lives forever.

Yes, we do have a dedicated path to take us through every twist and turn in our lives. Jesus led the way for us. Making the right decisions in our lives can be difficult and confusing. Many times we just can't see far enough ahead, and the paths are cloudy. But Jesus made our life journey much clearer for us when He chose the Cross.

We can all reflect on Jesus' path to the Cross and know beyond any doubt that if we follow Him, we'll be headed in the right direction.

When we're confused or unsure about what our next steps our in our lives; remember, we can't go wrong if we take the *Cross walk, it's always the right Way to go!*

Have a wonderful Easter celebration,



Dom Perfetti

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"Now the Centurion who stood facing him that this in this way he breathed his last, he said, " Truly this man was God's Son." (Mark 15:39)

We are in the season of the celebration of Easter. But the

suffering of Christ is fresh in our heart. The people who stood near the cross were many. different thought's about the Lord Jesus Christ. If we stood near the cross where do we want to stand? Are we going to stand with the people who denied him? Or are we going to stand with the Roman Centurion?

Let us look at him, we may astonished at him. Because, " so marred his appearance, beyond human seamless." (Isaiah :52:3) If we read Isaiah 53 he describes about the suffering of Christ. His suffering's brought us to the salvation. Through his love he took all our mistakes, failure, and the burden. The Centurion who lead our Lord to the cross saw his suffering's and patients. There were tow criminal's also crucified with Christ. One was denied but the other was said," Jesus remember me when you come into your Kingdom."(Luke23:42) The Lord Jesus Christ was not kept silent for this man or he was not denied him. He gave the forgiveness even while he was on the cross and he offered him to go with him to the Paradise. What a marvelous love of Christ. Just like the centurion we can accept him and tell all about us. He will listen to us and do the best for us.

From the cross if we walk to the tomb where he was laid. The disciples also went to the tomb to look at the body of Jesus Christ. The Gospel of Mark describes chapter 16:5-6, " As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. but he said to them, " Do not alarmed you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified. He has raised, he is not here there is the place they laid him,"

We may look for Jesus in so many way and try to find him. But when we look deep in us where are we looking for Christ? He is willing to come into our life. Just like the empty tomb we can empty our heart and ask him to come and be with us. Our Easter celebration is connecting us to the Christ, and he give us understanding of his love and his suffering for us. A centurion and a criminal found the Christ at the cross. wherever we are he is willing to come and accept us, lead us and heal all our suffering in our life.



I want to my witness of how I was met the Christ at the cross:--

My home town was small and only one small Church in the town. My parent's had many own houses. While I was 7yrs old a Christian family was rented to one of our house. The following is true the family husband was a carpenter, his wife was home maker, one boy (18yrs) and a girl (20yrs). Our family no one know about Christianity because they were Brhamin. I was very curious about this new Christian family. One Saturday I sneak out and went to this new family home. On seeing me they invited me and I went inside the house, the husband was busy with carpenter work. The woods and tools laid on the floor. The wife was introduced her family member's. I felt some special atmosphere in the house. My first visit was continued every Saturday. I sat and watched the wood work and some time I assisted to give tools to the carpenter. After a year went the new family daughter Shirley 's wedding was organized. I was invited and my parent's send me to the wedding.

I was guided by the carpenter and his wife to our Town Church. we walked through the main gate, passed the garden and entered into the entrance of the Church. I step into the Sanctuary, Wow! it was so beautiful, decorated with Jasmin flower's and very quiet. The carpenter wife lead me to sit in very first pew near the Alter. I looked around and I saw a 10 foot high man made crucified Jesus Christ kept on the right side of the Alter. It was new for me to see it. I have no idea about it. I got out of the pew and went near the cross, I lifted up my face and looked at the face of the Jesus Christ. The thorny crown, nail's perished each palm of the hand's and feet. I felt as if the blood flowing from his wound's. I looked again and again, and an usual sorrow filled in me. I asked softly this, " Who punished you like this? This is so painful for you?" I looked over and over the face of the Christ. His face was painted in my heart and soul and no one can erase it even today.

At the same time I saw the carpenter wife was behind me and she bend over her face near my right ear and said this to me," Child ask him anything he will give you." this is the very first Gospel I received. I kept it safe.I met Christ near the cross and I accepted him as my Father in heaven and earth. I become silent believer of Christ, for it I met many challenges after challenges but the savior helped. I found the Lord Jesus Christ just near the cross just like the centurion.

He is Risen and he is willing to be with us. Only we must believe in him and allow him to guide our life to fill with peace and blessings. Amen.

Olive Ezekiel Minister For Healing



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Come! Rejoice! Celebrate!

Dorothy Ellinwood and Henry Walter invite members and friends of McKownville Church to their wedding in the sanctuary

2:00 pm Saturday May 19.

We ask two things:

(1) Please RSVP by May 1 to henrywalter57@aol.com

(2) Only your presence, no presents. Each of us already has a full house of things. If you must give something, the Guilderland Food Pantry can always use jelly, paper products, and 50 ounce laundry detergent.

Financial Campaign

Open Hearts, Open Hands! Giving to advance God's work!

Our annual Financial Campaign will happen in April! Kick-Off Sunday is April 8, Commitment Sunday is April 29.

During worship in April, announcements by members of the congregation will describe our plans for the coming fiscal year (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019), tell you what resources we need just to stay open, and then challenge the congregation to support dreams for extended outreach.

Watch for a letter to each member to be mailed shortly after Easter. Henry Walter, Campaign Chair.

Brooks BBQ

Save the date! Once again it is time to start looking forward to our MUMC spring Brooks BBQ! It will be held on **Saturday, May 5**, 2018. This has been a major fundraiser for the last 31 years and this will be the church's 64th BBQ. The success of this event depends on church members volunteering. As always, more hands make the job easier. Please consider volunteering by signing up on the sheets in the back of the sanctuary or by saying "YES!" to committee members requesting your help. Thank you in advance!

Pine Grove UMC-Roast Pork Dinner

A roast pork dinner will be hosted by Pine Grove United Methodist Church, 1580 Central Ave., Colonie, on Sat., April 21, from 4 to 6 p.m. In addition to the roast pork - the 'all you can eat' (except dessert) dinner will include sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable, dessert and beverage.

Price is \$11 for adults; \$5, children ages 5 to 12 years; under 5, free. For reservations, call 518-248-9934 by Tue., April 17. Future dinner dates include June 2, Sept. 22 and Nov. 3.

Barbara Pine Grove UMC Communications Chair 518-869-6281 www.pinegroveunitedmethodist.org





YOUTHNEWS

Sunday School for grades PreK – 12th Grade

<u>Elementary groups</u>: Storytelling, Arts and Crafts, games and more!!! <u>Middle School:</u> Discussion based sessions to delve deeper into familiar Bible Stories <u>High School:</u> discussion based on videos and popular movies drawing on Bible based morals in real life situations

<u>Guilderland Youth Group</u> is an open gathering of youth in grades 8-12 We meet to relate, to be social, to empower young people as world-changing disciples of Jesus Christ, to nurture faith development, and to equip young leaders. We meet 3-4 times per month for FUN, SERVICE, LEARNING and WORSHIP experiences. If you are looking for a group of young people to GO and DO – this is for you!!!

You can find contact information and more information about our youth ministries on our website at www.mckownvillechurch.org

2018 Mission of Peace—This year's Mission of Peace will be to Zimbabwe! Youth who will be Juniors or Seniors in the January of 2018 are eligible to attend. Acceptance based on Application and Interview (happens in March, 2018). Pumpkin Patch Scholarship money is available to underwrite 70% of expenses for each McKownville participant chosen for the MOP team. See Angela Stott to learn more or to get an initial application.

<u>UPCOMING</u>



The CCYM (Conference Council on Youth Ministries) has made final plans for this year's Spring Youth Gathering, Outward '18!! The event, scheduled for Friday, April 13 to Sunday, April 15, at the Holiday Inn, Liverpool NY, will be here before we know it! Keep an eye on our church Facebook page and the Upper NY Conference Website and CCYM Ministries page, in the coming weeks, for more information about the event. Registration will be opening in mid-February.

Café cabaret has been canceled!

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Volunteer Opportunity! Troy Food Pantry Delivery Unloading

The Roarke Center needs some helping hands to unload our food delivery truck on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

Required ability to lift 50 lbs and walk up and down stairs. Dress comfortably!

If you have any questions please feel free to email me at jcarroll@ccalbany.org, call me at 518-512-3577 x115 or leave a comment here.





ADULT FORUM – GOD IN THE MOVIES

Movies excite us in ways that other media may not. Sometimes, beyond the intended direct message, a subtle underlying message resonates even more. Could such a moment be a "God moment?" Catherine Barsotti and Robert Johnston, in their book "God in the Movies" (ISBN 978-1-58743-390-0) suggest a number of films that address spiritual issues. From time to time Adult Forum will discuss such a film. We

meet in the room across from the library (down the hall from the

church office) Sundays 9:30-10:30 am and Mondays 7:00 - 8:00 pm.

Barsotti and Johnston selected these films for their book. If one of them is especially meaningful to you, we could feature it in the next discussion. Let a leader of Adult Forum know. Films will be announced several weeks in advance so there is time to watch them before we meet. Come, enrich our discussion! (All foreign films have English subtitles.)

Amadeus [1984] Babette's Feast [1987] Chariots of Fire [1981] Crimes and Misdemeanors [1989] Do the Right Think [1989] The Elephant Man [1980] Field of Dreams [1989] The Mission [1986] Places in the Heart [1984] Wings of Desire [1987] American Beauty [1999] Breaking the Waves [1996] Dead Man Walking [1993] Groundhog Day [1993]

- To Live [1994] Magnolia [1999] The Piano [1993] The Shawshank Redemption [1994] Three Colors: Blue [1993] Unforgiven [1992] Children of Men [2006] Lars and the Real Girl [2007] Munyurangabo [2008] Secret Sunshine [2007 A Serious Man [2009] The Son [2002] There Will Be Blood [2008] UP [2009]
- WALL-E [2008] Water [2005] The Adjustment Bureau [2011] Calvary [2014] Get Low [2010] Life of Pi [2012] Noah [2014] Of Gods and Men [2010] The Tree of Life [2011] True Grit [2010] 13 Years a Slave [2013] Zero Dark Thirty [2012]

SUBMIT PHOTOS

Please continue to submit PHOTOS and descriptions of small groups, ministries, teams, etc. for a new and updated church guidebook and the new communication board!

Our trustees are looking for someone to fill a vacant building maintenance position—See a trustee for more information!

Grab A Hard Copy!

Each Sunday morning, Pastor Charlie's sermon will be available in print and can be picked up from the greeters before the service begins. If you would like to have the sermons mailed to you each week you may call the office (456-1148) and make a request.

Watch it live!

You can now view Pastor Charlie's sermons live as they happen or later on when you have time from our Facebook page! /McKownvilleChurch I

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	DATE	<u>GREETERS/</u> <u>USHERS</u>	<u>LA'</u> WORSHIP			
	April 8	Ildra and Carl Morse Paul Scoville		oville		
	April 15	Lucille Esposito Linda Faulkner	Todd N	lemic		
	April 22	Susan and Bill Burns	Laura M	arotta		
	April 29	Dorothy Ellinwood Emma Herendeen	Nancy R	hodes		
	May 6	Kristen Waters Linda Faulkner	Nancy Ru	utenber		
Greeters & Ushers Coordinator: Looking for a new volunteer!! Coffee Hour Coordinator: Chris Steffens - 608-5300 Lay Worship Leader Coordinator: Nancy Rutenber - 456-0412 * Please note that Greeters and Ushers duties are now combined. **We are still looking for someone to take over the position of Greeters/Ushers coordinator. Please contact Pauline Martin for details about the job. blundyp379@aol.com						
APRIL ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS <u>Anniversaries</u> <u>Birthdays</u>						
1 7	 Paul & Beth Berger David & Carol Martin Stephen & JoAnna DiE Barbara & Paul Cullen 	1 – Mark L 2 – Teri Sc Donna 4 – Jill Eist 5 – Tracy S 7 – Bill Sei 8 – Susan 11 – David 12 – Morga	 1 – Robert Schambach 1 – Mark LaFave 2 – Teri Scoville 4 – Jill Eistertz 5 – Tracy Shropshire 7 – Bill Seim 8 – Susan Burns 11 – David Gooding 12 – Morgan Jones 13 Eric Mastrogiovanni 		n Markessinis ew Steffens Marotta Barre d'Hare Evans Bender Wilson Butler Bowen	

- 15 Kim Atwood
- 15 Paul Cullen
- 16 Kathryn Liotta
- 29 Chris DeVall
- 29 Emily Gray
- 30 Melissa Berger

APRIL

Church Meetings

*Finance Team: second Tuesday, 7:00pm. *Leadership Council: third Tuesday, 7:00pm. *Worship Team: fourth Tuesday, 7:00pm.

Special Meetings will be on the calendar and are usually announced in weekly bulletins.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Contemporary Praise Service 9:30 am Traditional Service 11:00 a.m. Adult Forum 9:30 a.m.	Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Adult Forum 7:00 pm	Living Resources 9:30 am A.A. 4:30 pm Yoga 6:00 pm	Yoga 10:00 am Yoga 5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	TOT Hill Gang 9:30 am Al-Anon 12:00 pm Yoga 5:30 pm	Narcotics Anonymous 6:00 pm	A.A. 7:00 am
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Contemporary Praise Service 9:30 am Traditional Service 11:00 a.m. Adult Forum 9:30 a.m.	Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Adult Forum 7:00 pm	Living Resources 9:30 am A.A. 4:30 pm Yoga 6:00 pm	Yoga 10:00 am Yoga 5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	5:30 pm TOT Hill Gang rcotics 9:30 am hymous 00 pm Al-Anon 12:00 pm choir hearsal Yoga 5:30 pm		A.A. 7:00 am
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Contemporary Praise Service 9:30 am Traditional Service 11:00 a.m. Adult Forum 9:30	Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Adult Forum 7:00 pm	Living Resources 9:30 am A.A. 4:30 pm Yoga 6:00 pm	Yoga 10:00 am Yoga 5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	TOT Hill Gang 9:30 am Al-Anon 12:00 pm American Sewing Guild 12:30 pm Yoga 5:30 pm	Narcotics Anonymous 6:00 pm	A.A. 7:00 am
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Contemporary Praise Service 9:30 am Traditional Service 11:00 a.m. Adult Forum 9:30 a.m.	Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Adult Forum 7:00 pm	Living Resources 9:30 am A.A. 4:30 pm Yoga 6:00 pm	Yoga 10:00 am Yoga 5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	TOT Hill Gang 9:30 am Al-Anon 12:00 pm Yoga 5:30 pm	Narcotics Anonymous 6:00 pm	A.A. 7:00 am
29	30			Sundays	⇒ 4:00 pm-	-Quintessence
Contemporary Praise Service 9:30 am Traditional Service 11:00 a.m.	Cub Scouts 6:30 pm		11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	9:30 am—Praise Service 9:30 am—Adult Forum 9:45am—Sunday School 10:00 am—Fellowship Tir 11:00 am—Traditional Se	\Rightarrow 4:30 pm- \Rightarrow 5:45 pm- me \Rightarrow 6:30 pm-	Rehearsal –Wesley Ringers Rehearsal –New Song Rehearsal –Higher Up Rehearsal
Adult Forum 9:30 a.m.	Adult Forum 7:00 pm		\Rightarrow	2:45 pm—Praise Team Rehearsal	**SEE SUNDA CHANGES!	Y BULLETIN FOR

Plants with Personality

Is your plant a wallflower or the life of the party?

By Laura Crockett

Garden design is far more than just choosing appropriate plants for the site and properly spacing them in well-prepared soil. It's about creating an energy or mood that makes the owner or visitor feel comfortable and connected to the surroundings. As a garden designer, one way I do this is by selecting plants for their personality rather than just by whether they grow in sun or shade. I consider the demeanor that is portrayed through their weepy forms or jagged leaves. By looking at plants in terms of the personalities they convey, you can match them with how you want to feel in your outdoor spaces. For example, you might want to feel relaxed and unpretentious in your bedroom garden but upbeat and energized in your more-social backyard.

Identifying how you want to feel in the garden and personalizing that feeling is critical because what can set a specific mood for one person may evoke a different mood in someone else. A cool, soothing space might be a green lawn for one person and the understory of a large tree for another. The most effective use of plant personalities triggers personal associations and gives that "warm and fuzzy" feeling.

Just as what can trigger different garden moods varies from person to person, so does how we interpret and define plant personalities. If you look closely, however, you can pinpoint traits that make up a personality or desired effect. Certain characteristics, like a stiff posture, subtle fragrance, or colorful exterior, can clue you into the personality of a plant. Once you begin to recognize these markers, you can choose plants that have a personality that is calm, lively, or anything in between. Let's take a look at five personalities that I regularly use to set a mood and personalize garden spaces.

Read the rest of the article at http://www.finegardening.com/article/plants-with-personality



AFTER THE WINTER By Claus McKay

Some day, when trees have shed their leaves And against the morning's white The shivering birds beneath the eaves Have sheltered for the night, We'll turn our faces southward, love, Toward the summer isle Where bamboos spire the shafted grove And wide-mouthed orchids smile.

And we will seek the quiet hill Where towers the cotton tree, And leaps the laughing crystal rill, And works the droning bee.

And we will build a cottage there

Beside an open glade,

With black-ribbed blue-bells blowing near,

And ferns that never fade.



Claude McKay, "After the Winter" from *Claude McKay: Complete Poems*. Published by University of Illinois Press. Copyright © 2004 by Claude McKay. Courtesy of the Literary Representative for the Works of Claude McKay, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Spring Word Search

1	т	U	0	R	Р	S	J	С	U	F	S
S	v	к	С	S	0	Ν	w	в	Y	С	Q
Α	в	S	I.	Р	F	Е	Р	R	L	С	Н
0	М	0	0	L	в	D	к	U	F	х	S
С	С	С	Ρ	Α	в	R	к	J	R	к	Р
G	0	Q	J	Ν	D	Α	С	Ν	Е	v	R
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Υ	L	1	А	Α	1	Ν	z	w	S	S	Х
Е	I	М	L	G	н	в	T	Е	Е	w	С
к	R	Y	z	R	S	U	т	Α	Р	R	н
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MICROSOFT	
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Albany, New York 12203-4222	
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Phone: 518-456-1148	
E-mail: mckownumc@verizon.net	
Website: www.McKownvilleChurch.com	
Facebook: RedDoorsChurch	
Twitter: @MckownvilleUMC	
The Rev. DR. Charlie Yang, Pastor	
E-mail: pastorcyang@gmail.com	
Office Hours:	
Monday—Friday: 9am-1pm	

Ministry and Team Leaders of the McKownville United Methodist Church

Board of Trustees:	Ministry Teams:				
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